

HISTORIC SITE
SURVEY INVENTORY

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON: St Peter & Pauls Roman Catholic Church, Monastery &				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Parish Hall				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 125 Fayette St.				
CITY OR TOWN: Cumberland				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Allegany	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		OWNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No				
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific				
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Archdiocese of Baltimore				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Allegany County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington St.				
CITY OR TOWN: Cumberland			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 21502				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington St.				
CITY OR TOWN: Cumberland			STATE: Maryland	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	<div>(Check One)</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed </div>
	<div>(Check One)</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncolored <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>See Pictures</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

In 1841, the nucleus of the present SS. Peter and Paul congregation consisted of a handful of German Catholics attending St. Patrick's Church. The number of German Catholics increased with the arrival of the B & O Railroad and the ^{C & O} Canal into Cumberland in 1842 and 1850. The little frame church at St. Patrick's could no longer accommodate the worshipers. Father Joseph Helmprecht and Father John N. Neumann ^(now St. John Neumann) were among the Redemptorists who served Cumberland Catholics in 1841. Anxious to have a resident pastor of their own nationality, the German population elected Michael Wiesel to go to the Archbishop of Baltimore, the Most Rev. Samuel Eccleston to make the request. Permission was granted, Dec. 4, 1847, Mr. Wiesel and Rev. Neumann, superior of the Redemptorists, selected the present site. This land known as Academy Hill (formerly Fort Hill-because of location of Fort Cumberland). This area was the scene of the defeat of the French by the English, during the French and Indian War. (as taken from Concise History of Cumberland, which appeared in the Daily News of Jan. 3, 1926; this item found in water department file by J.D. Goodhand, city auditor.).

The State offered two lots for sale. Mr. Wiesel paid \$600 cash for one, with the option to purchase the other at a later date. He did so for an additional \$350. In the spring of 1848, men of the parish began work on the foundation. On July 4, 1848, the solemn laying of the corner-stone took place. Most Rev. Eccleston, D.D. officiated. A procession formed at St. Patrick's and marched through Centre and Baltimore Streets to the church site. The corner-stone was laid following the rites of the Church in honor of the Apostles, Peter and Paul. Two sermons were delivered, one in English by the Most Rev. Archbishop and the other in German by Rev. Joseph Helmprecht. The Church was under roof by the end of the year.

In 1849, Rev. F. Anthony Urbanczek was appointed as the first pastor of SS. Peter and Paul Church. Brother Adam Parr became the first teacher.

Father Urban, as he was called, and Brother Adam moved into their new quarters. The basement of the church served as chapel, school, monastery all in one. Their joint salary was \$30 a month. The total bill of construction was \$5,600. Pew rentals of \$1 per seat for three months plus Sunday collections were the only means by which the debt was eventually paid. A gift of an organ valued at \$150 was received from the Redemptorist Order.

The novitiate of the Order, being located here, required larger quarters. In 1850, they were built closely connected to the church. *The Monastery*

In 1850, 2 and 1/8 acres of land, on Rose Hill, were purchased and divided into lots selling for \$15 each. This was the beginning of the SS. Peter and Paul cemetery.

A conflict between church and government started soon after the formation of the German Empire in 1870. During the time of "Kulturkampf" (culture war) in Germany, some of the Capuchin fathers decided to come to America. Father Anthony Scheurmann and Father Francis Wolf arrived in New York and learned of the Carmelites wish to give up the school and parish work at SS. Peter and Paul to return to their former house in Kansas. Coming to Cumberland in June 1875, these priests purchased the entire property from Father Cyril for \$21,000. Other Capuchins soon came to SS. Peter and Paul's. Father Anthony was made pastor upon the retirement of Father Anthony in 1877.

With the expansion of the facilities the church needed enlarging. A two story sacristy was built on both sides of the sanctuary, each extending nine feet beyond the length of the church. All additions were completed during 1872.

In 1893, the corner-stone for the new parish hall was laid. The high alters put in by the Carmelites were gradually replaced by hand-carved altars made by the Capuchin Brothers craftmanship. The interior

of the church was painted in fresco style in 1898 and a new organ was purchased.

In 1902, the stained glass windows were purchased for \$5,280. They were imported from Insbruck, ^{Austria} The Monastery wall was completed in 1903.

Ursuline Academy

In 1852, the need for more school room facilities arose, so the "Allegany County Academy" on the corner of Fayette Street and Plum Alley was purchased for \$2,000. (Note: Plum Alley was purchased from the city of Cumberland and is now the driveway to the Monastery grounds). This old Academy building was replaced by a new school in 1868, when the Carmelite Fathers had charge of the parish. Superiors of the Redemptorist Order, desiring to have the novitiate and college nearer the provincial residence in Baltimore, sold the entire property to the Carmelite Fathers in 1866, for \$20,000. Rev. Cyril Knoll, O.C.C., received the deed in 1874. Meanwhile the parish and school enrollment increased and the Academy was no longer adequate. It was razed.

In September of 1868, the solemn laying of the corner-stone, for the new school, took place. By May 1869, the building was completed and dedicated. Father Knoll requested the Mother Superior of the Ursuline Nuns of Louisville, Ky., to send three Nuns to the new school. They arrived October 1870. Soon after their arrival the new convent was dedicated.

In 1892, the Sisters opened Ursuline Academy for students who had completed the eight grades at SS. Peter and Paul's. Both boys and girls were enrolled the first year. Later, the Academy was restricted to girls.

"Alpine Hall"--a building located on the northeast corner of Fayette Street was bought and the Ursuline Academy transferred to this site. Classes remained there until the building was razed in

1931 in order to erect a new school. In May 1931, the corner-stone of the present school building was laid.

Most Rev. John N. Neumann

Most Rev. John S. Neumann was born in Bohemia in 1811. He chose to be a missionary in America. He was ordained, a secular priest in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. He entered the Redemptorists novitiate at Pittsburgh in 1840. In 1842, he became the first to make his profession as a Redemptorist in this country. This took place in the old St. Jacob's Church in Baltimore, Maryland. Two years later, he was made Superior of the Redemptorists in Pittsburgh, Pa.

In January of 1847, he was assigned to Baltimore, where he was appointed Superior of the order in America. In this capacity, he traveled to Maryland, Maryland to administer the Sacraments. It was then that he became acquainted with the Germans and learned of their desire to have their own church and pastor. *He became a citizen in 1848*

Father Neumann was consecrated Bishop of Philadelphia in St. Alphonsus' Church in Baltimore, March 28, 1852. He remained there until his death in ^{Jan. 5} 1860. His body reposes under the altar in St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia, Pa. *He was made a Saint in 1976 by Pope Paul VI*

Researched and written by Pauline McEvoy, a member of SS. Peter and Paul's Church.

Typed by

Hazel Groves Hansrote, Chairman of the
First Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust of Allegany County.

Dated 66 1970.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☐ Agriculture☒ Architecture☒ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☒ Education☐ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☒ Landscape

Architecture

☐ Literature☐ Military☐ Music☐ Political☒ Religion/Phil-

osophy

☐ Science☒ Sculpture☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater☐ Transportation☐ Urban Planning☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Peter + Pauls Parish was founded by Saint John Newman first American ~~male~~ Saint of Roman Catholic Church in the early 1840's. Cornerstone to Church was laid in July 4, 1848. Monastery was built 1854-56. Chapel Addition to monastery was constructed 1888. Cornerstone of Parish Hall was laid June 11, 1893. Monastery Wall was begun 1901 and finished 1903. In 1928 the Church was frescoed. 1929 Monastery wall was continued on Snellwood St. In 1947-48 Church was frescoed & Monastery & wall were repaired. Interior - some slight renovation of Church in 1970 to accomodate new teachings regarding altar table facing people & ^{partial} removal of altar railing & carpeting.

See Attachments

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Across the Oaks" by J. William Hunt - Cumberland Sunday Times
Research of Pauline McCrory.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Book 4 page 82 Deed.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mary C. Miltenberger		DATE 10-78
ORGANIZATION Corresponding Sec. Parish Council		
STREET AND NUMBER: Rt 2 Box 605		
CITY OR TOWN: Cumberland	STATE Maryland	2/5/02

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____

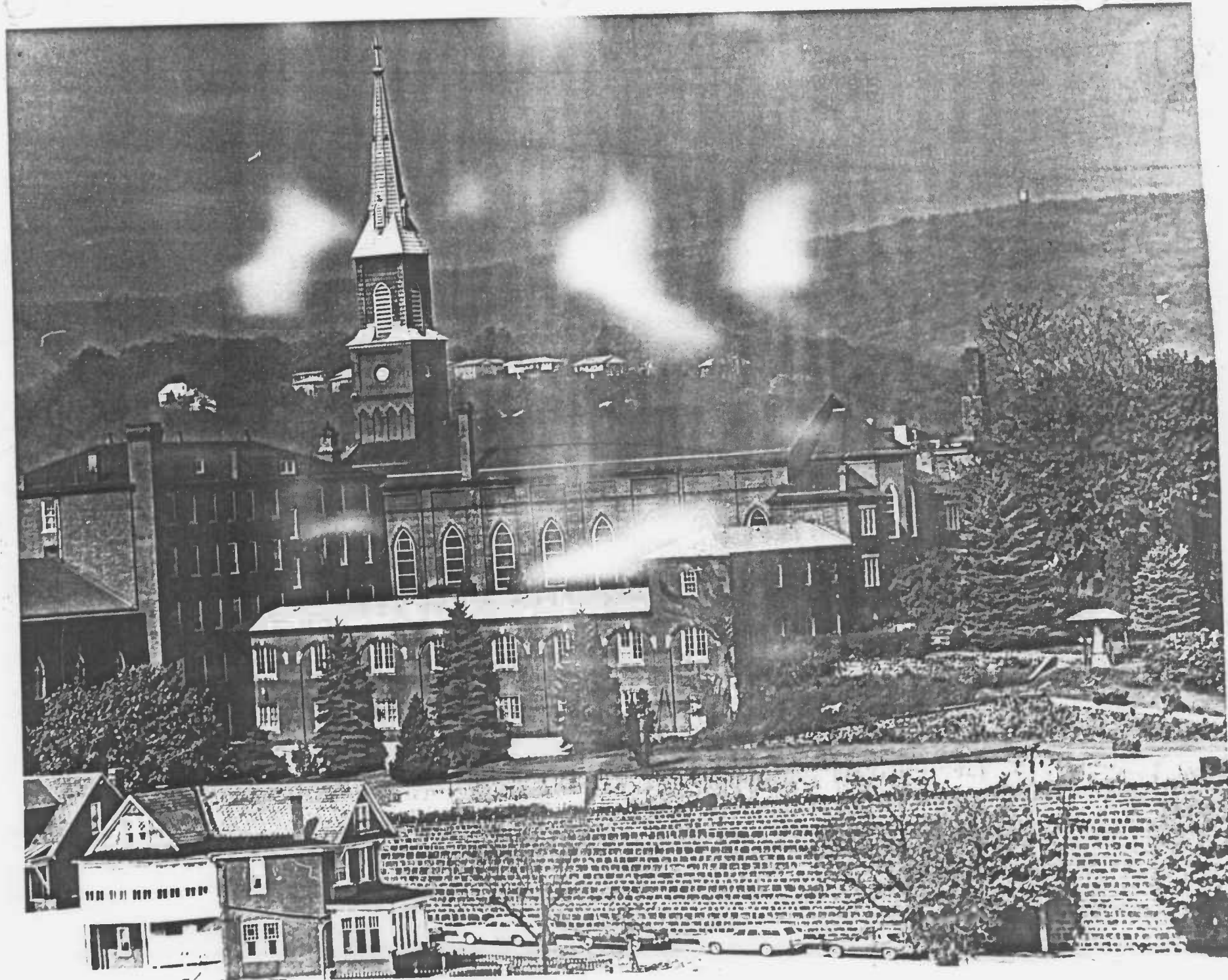
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1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Allegany</u> TOWN <u>Cumberland</u> VICINITY <u>West-side</u> STREET NO. <u>Fayette Street at</u> <u>Smallwood</u> ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER <u>Archbishop of Baltimore</u> PRESENT USE <u>various</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>brick</u> NO. OF STORIES		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>AL-109</u> 2. NAME <u>SS Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Ursuline Academy, Monastery and Convent and Cemetery</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>1848</u> STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>Yes</u> 1841--German Catholics attended frame church of St. Patrick's. 1847--Dec. 4, Present site selected. Land on Academy Hill formerly Fort Hill because of Fort Cumberland. \$950 for two lots. 1848--Foundation work by men of the parish. " July 4, Cornerstone laid. Church under roof by end of year at cost of \$5,600. Pew rent at \$1 per seat and Sunday collections for three months paid off the debt. Basement served as chapel, school and monastery. 1850--Novitiate required larger quarters. Purchased 2 1/8 acres of land (at Rose Hill Cemetery area) and divided into lots selling for \$15.00 each, thus began SS Peter and Paul's Cemetery on Fayette Street. 1852--Ursuline Academy, corner Fayette and Plum Alley for \$2,000. 1868--Ursuline Academy building replaced; cornerstone laid, 1869 1870--Oct. New Ursuline convent dedicated. Three Nuns (Ky)-arrived. 1866--Carmelite bought property from Redemptorists for \$20,000. 1872--Two story sacristy built on both sides of sanctuary, each extending nine feet beyond the length of the church--completed. 1875--Capuchin fathers purchased entire property for \$21,000. 1892--Ursuline academy completed with both boys and girls attending. One year later it became a school for girls only. 1893--Cornerstone for new parish hall. High altars put in by Carmelite's gradually replaced by hand-carved altars of the Capuchin Brothers craftsmanship. 1898--Interior of church painted in fresco style. New organ. 1902--Stained glass windows at cost of \$5,280/ Imported from Insbruck. ---over--- 1903--Monastery Wall completed. Alpine Hall on northeast corner			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered		Interior <u>V. Good</u> Exterior <u>Excellent</u>	
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC. <u>Data research, Church History by Pauline McEvoy, MHT and member of SS. Peter & Paul's</u>		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER typed by <u>Hazel Groves Hansrote, Chairman Maryland Historical Trust and Sec.-Preservation Society, Allegany County</u> <u>Oct. 20, 1970.</u> DATE OF RECORD	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

Ursuline Academy transferred to this site.

1931-- Alpine Hall razed. Cornerstone of present school laid.



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Sept - Helen S. Hendle



M-IV-A-117

Sept. Helen S. Hendler